



TIMELINE for the Superior National Forest February 2009

1895-1903- CC Andrews- State Forestry Commissioner, H.H. Chapman and the Minnesota Federation of Womens Clubs led lobbying efforts to establish Forest Reserve areas leading to the development of two National Forests in Minnesota.

1903-1909 Forest Reserves from 62,000,000 acres to 194,000,000 acres established nationally

1905-U.S. Forest Service initiated as an agency within the Dept. of Agriculture

1903-Braniff and **1908** Higgins Reports submitted to Congress providing specifics of recommended National Forest areas in Northeastern MN

1908- First Minnesota national forest (Chippewa) established

1909- Superior National Forest was established by proclamation # 848 on February 13th by President Theodore Roosevelt. *WHEREAS, the public lands in the State of Minnesota, which are hereinafter indicated, are in part covered with timber, and it appears that the public good would be promoted by utilizing said lands as a National Forest;*

Now, therefore, I, THEODORE ROOSEVELT, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the power in me vested by section twenty-four of the Act of Congress, approved March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, entitled, "An Action to repeal timber-culture laws, and for other purposes", do proclaim that there are hereby reserved from settlement or entry and set apart as a public reservation, for the use and benefit of the people, all the tracts of land in the State of Minnesota shown as the Superior National Forest on the diagram forming a part hereof.

The withdrawal made by this Proclamation shall, as to all lands which are at this date legally appropriated under the public land laws or preserved for any public purpose, be subject to, and shall not interfere with or defeat legal rights under such appropriation, nor prevent the use for such public purpose of lands so reserved, so long as such appropriation is legally maintained, or such reservation remains in force.

Supervisor's office first opened over Fenske's Store in Ely, rental.
Six district log cabin offices, \$500 each (LaCroix, Mesaba, Halfway, Kawishiwi, Temperance, Gunflint).

First employees on the Superior worked out of one Forest office located in Ely:
John S Baird (Lumberman)- Acting Forest Supervisor (July 1909-April of 1910)

Alex Cummings- Forest Guard- 1909
John Handberg- Forest Guard/Ranger- 1909
Charles Taylor- Forest Guard/Ranger- 1909
Leslie M Brownell- Forest Guard/Ranger- 1909
Mel J. Cummings- Forest Guard/ Ranger- 1909
Scott Leavitt- Forest Guard/Ranger- 1909
Guy M. Terry- Forest/Guard/Ranger- 1909

1909- Quetico Forest Reserve established in Ontario adjacent to the Forest. The reserve became the Quetico Provincial Park in 1913.

1910 - Joe A. Fitzwater becomes first full time Forest Supervisor

1911- Weeks Act allows acquisition of additional Forest land by purchase to protect water resources

1909-1920- Generally a period of resource assessment and fire protection-Baird and Echo River Ranger Stations established

1914 - Leslie M. Brownell named Forest Supervisor

1917 - District office built at Aurora

1919- Arthur Carhart briefly tours portions of Superior National Forest and reports on recreation potential and makes recommendations. Carhart returns in 1921 to make a more extensive evaluation of Superior National Forest recreation values and submits 144 page report to Washington Office, Forest Service.

1919 - Calvin A. Dahlgren, Forest Supervisor

1922 - Supervisor's office moved to Shagawa's Hotel in Ely, rental.

1922- Interest groups become active in promoting preservation of remote areas of the Forest (core of future roadless areas/boundary waters canoe area)

1924- A. L. Richey, Forest Supervisor

1924 Clarke-McNary Act allows acquisition of additional Forest land by purchase for the purpose of timber production

1920-1930- Controversial county road development (Echo Trail, Gunflint Trail, Fernberg Road) for fire protection and public access to Forest Lands

1925- Controversy regarding hydroelectric development in Border lakes region active

1926 - Supervisor's office moved to Pete's Garage in Ely, rental.

1926 - Al Hamel named Forest Supervisor

1926 - Earliest forest plan approved and implemented

1930- Knutson-Vandenberg Act passed, establishing funding method for reforestation of harvest areas

1930- S.D. Anderson, Forest Supervisor

1930 - Virginia District office built at Sand Lake, log cabin.

1930- Shipstead/Newton/Nolan Act prohibits logging in defined areas, to prevent elevation of water levels and to protect a recreational buffer area adjacent to water ways

1931 – R.A. Zeller, Forest Supervisor

1932 – Leslie S. Bean becomes Forest Supervisor

1933 – Earl Pierce, Forest Supervisor

1933 - Ely Service Center built, Kawishiwi and LaCroix Districts move in.

1933 - Supervisor's Office moves to Federal Building in Duluth

1934- Quetico- Superior Committee initiated by Executive order #6783

1934 – R.V. Harmon, Forest Supervisor

1933-1942- CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) a cooperative effort between the army and various agencies was established and operated on national forests across the country, engaging in fire protection, building roads, campgrounds, campsites, portages, trails, fire fighting, performing land timber and biological surveys, improving fisheries, planting trees and more

1935 - CCC constructs buildings at Tofte, Ely, Isabella, and Grand Marais.

1935 - Tofte District moves from Sawbill Lake cabin to office at present site.

1938 - Kawishiwi and LaCroix districts move to post office building in Ely.

1939 – Clare W. Hendee, Forest Supervisor

1939- Three road-less areas are designated on the Forest

1944 – Arlie Toole, Forest Supervisor

1945 - Galen W. Pike named Forest Supervisor

1948-Thye-Blatnik Bill allows acquisition of additional Forest lands within the roadless areas, by purchase, for the purpose of recreation

1948-49- Protected air space established over the road less area - effective in 1951

1950 - Two Harbors District office built

1955 - Louis C. Hermel, Forest Supervisor

1958 - Additional housing built at Gunflint, Isabella, and Tofte.

1958 – Roadless areas renamed to Boundary Waters Canoe Area

1958 - L. P. Neff, Forest Supervisor

1960 - Virginia District office moves to Grandes Store in Virginia, rental.

1962 - LaCroix District office moves from Ely to Coopers Restaurant in Cook.

1963 - Gunflint District Office built in Grand Marais

1964 – Congress passes Wilderness Act designating BWCAW and several other federal wilderness areas.

1965 - Virginia District moves to leased office at 8 ½ Street, Virginia.

1965 - Permits are first required for entrance to the BWCAW.

1965 - The Voyageur Visitor Center opens in Ely.

1966 - Use of outboard motors is limited in accordance with the BWCAW Act.

1966 - John O. Wernham, named Forest Supervisor

1967 - The first timber crop planted by CCC crews is harvested on the Isabella Ranger District (junction of State Highway 1 and County Road 2).

1968 - Isabella District office built at present site

1969 - Tofte District office built at present site

1969 – Craig Rupp, Forest Supervisor

1970 -100 million board feet of timber cut and sold on the Forest

1971 - LaCroix District office moves to vacant IGA store in Cook, leased.

1971 – Harold Anderson named Forest Supervisor

1974 - Halfway Ranger District is consolidated with the Kawishiwi Ranger District at Ely Post Office. Halfway District office building turned over to North Central FES.

1974 – James Torrence, Forest Supervisor

1977 - New Superior National Forest Land Management Plan is implemented.

1977 – Rober O Rehfeld, Forest Supervisor

1978 - The BWCA Wilderness Act was passed with specific management direction.

1980 - Two Harbors District consolidates with Aurora and Isabella Districts. Two Harbors District administrative site buildings turned over to city.

1981 - A \$5 BWCAW reservation fee is implemented.

1982 – Clay Beal named Forest Supervisor

1983 - Virginia District office moves to another leased building in Virginia. Kawishiwi District office moves to Elementary School in Ely.

1984 - Peregrine falcons released on Forest in a reintroduction effort.

1985 - Eveleth Tree Nursery closes.

1986 - Revised forest plan completed and implemented

1986 - Dorothy Moulter, the last year-round resident of the BWCAW, dies.

1987 - Aurora District office reconstructed in Aurora

1988 – David Filus, Forest Supervisor

1988 - Virginia and Aurora districts consolidate as the Laurentian District. The Virginia Ranger Station is closed.

1991 - North Shore Scenic Byway dedicated at a ceremony at the wayside stop in Schroeder.

1993 - New LaCroix District administrative site built

1993 - Kathleen McAllister, named Acting Forest Supervisor

1993- BWCAW Management Plan approved

1994 - Kathleen McAllister, Forest Supervisor

1995 - New Gunflint District administrative site started, \$1,500,000.

1996 – Jim Sanders named Forest Supervisor

1998- Recreation Fee Demo program initiated

1999- July 4th blow-down affects 478,000 acres of Forest land (300,000 acres in BWCAW). All programs on the Forest re-directed towards recovery efforts.

2004 – Revised Forest Plan implemented

2005 – Alpine Lake Wildfire burns 1,335 acres on the Gunflint Ranger District

2006- Cavity Lake Wildfire burns 31,830 acres on the Gunflint Ranger District

2007 - Ham Lake Wildfire burns a total of approximately 70,000 acres (36,443 acres on Gunflint District, US and 39,408 acres in Canada) the largest in Forest history